

March 14, 2010

S.C. Public Service Commission
Suite 100
101 Executive Center Drive
Columbia, S.C. 29210

Re: Docket 2009-489-E File

Dear Sirs:

Thanks to the State Newspaper article on the front page of the March 9 issue as well as another article in section B in the March 14 issue which merely adds fuel to the fire, I wish to air my grievances against S.C.E.&G. in the hope that you can put a lasting strangle hold on that utility company. Indeed, it's about time S.C.E.&G. got slapped down and told where to head in after a litany of shameful injustices being inflicted on consumers as a result of S.C.E.&G. getting their every wish about rate hikes rubber stamped with approval after approval. Furthermore, the latter begs the question of whether the S.C. Public Service Commission is in S.C.E.&G.'s pocket. The whole thing is unconscionable, if not criminal.

Please consider the following and go figure:

1. It's a known fact that S.C.E.&G. charges a good deal more than the other power companies in areas contiguous to this one where they have a virtual monopoly.
2. Arch hipocrisy: Periodically S.C.E.&G. includes fliers in their billing envelopes advising how to cut down home power usage, and then they turn right around and present their customers with a rate increase.
3. Seemingly S.C.E.&G. wants to pass all of their costs and then some on to their customers, including a vast outlay for new power plants which are not yet even approved. And where did the money come from to build a fancy new office complex and to bestow upon the C.E.O. a huge salary increase along with an obscenely high bonus?
4. These are financially hard times -- the worst since the Great Depression -- and accordingly the vast majority of people are suffering greatly. Yet S.C.E.&G. apparently thinks it's perfectly okay to heap an even greater monetary burden on their customers so as to prevent S.C.E.&G. sharing the burden. And talk about power, if you the customer can't pay on time then the customer is charged a penalty. Moreover, they possess the ultimate weapon of cutting off their service.
5. The frosting atop S.C.E.&G.'s cake amounts to pure sophistry. For example, my monthly bill has risen some 75% overnight -- arbitrarily under the cover story of what they call the "budget billing plan". Presumably that allows them to

circumvent their sending someone out to read the electric meters on a monthly basis. And the crowning blow in my case is that they pretend I elected to come under that set up, which in fact I never did.

Recommendations:

Under no circumstances should S.C.E.&G. be allowed any rate increases whatsoever. Their top executives behind this chiseling and outrageous profiteering ought to be fired so they can get a taste of what it feels like to be unemployed and on a tight financial tether. Furthermore, lets "nationalize" S.C.E.&G. on a state level or, better still, send them packing out of South Carolina and in their place establish a power supply non-profit cooperative for the benefit of all those people currently being raped by S.C.E.&G.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Glenn A. Stackhouse". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Glenn A. Stackhouse
Apt. 7-A
1825 Saint Julian Place
Columbia, S.C. 29204